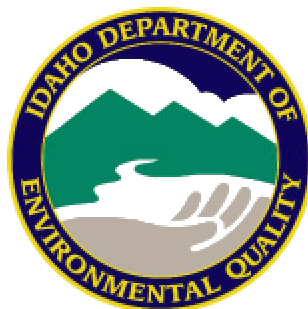


# FLAGSWEST (PWS 6030016) SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT FINAL REPORT

---

March 30, 2001



## State of Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

**Disclaimer:** This publication has been developed as part of an informational service for the source water assessments of public water systems in Idaho and is based on the data available at the time and the professional judgement of the staff. Although reasonable efforts have been made to present accurate information, no guarantees, including expressed or implied warranties of any kind, are made with respect to this publication by the State of Idaho or any of its agencies, employees, or agents, who also assume no legal responsibility for the accuracy of presentations, comments, or other information in this publication. The assessment is subject to modification if new data is produced.

Under the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, all states are required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to assess every source of public drinking water for its relative sensitivity to contaminants regulated by the Act. The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is completing the assessments for all Idaho public drinking water systems. The assessment for the Flagswest drinking water source is based on a land use inventory within a 1,000 foot radius of the well source, sensitivity factors associated with the source, and characteristics associated with either your aquifer or watershed in which you live.

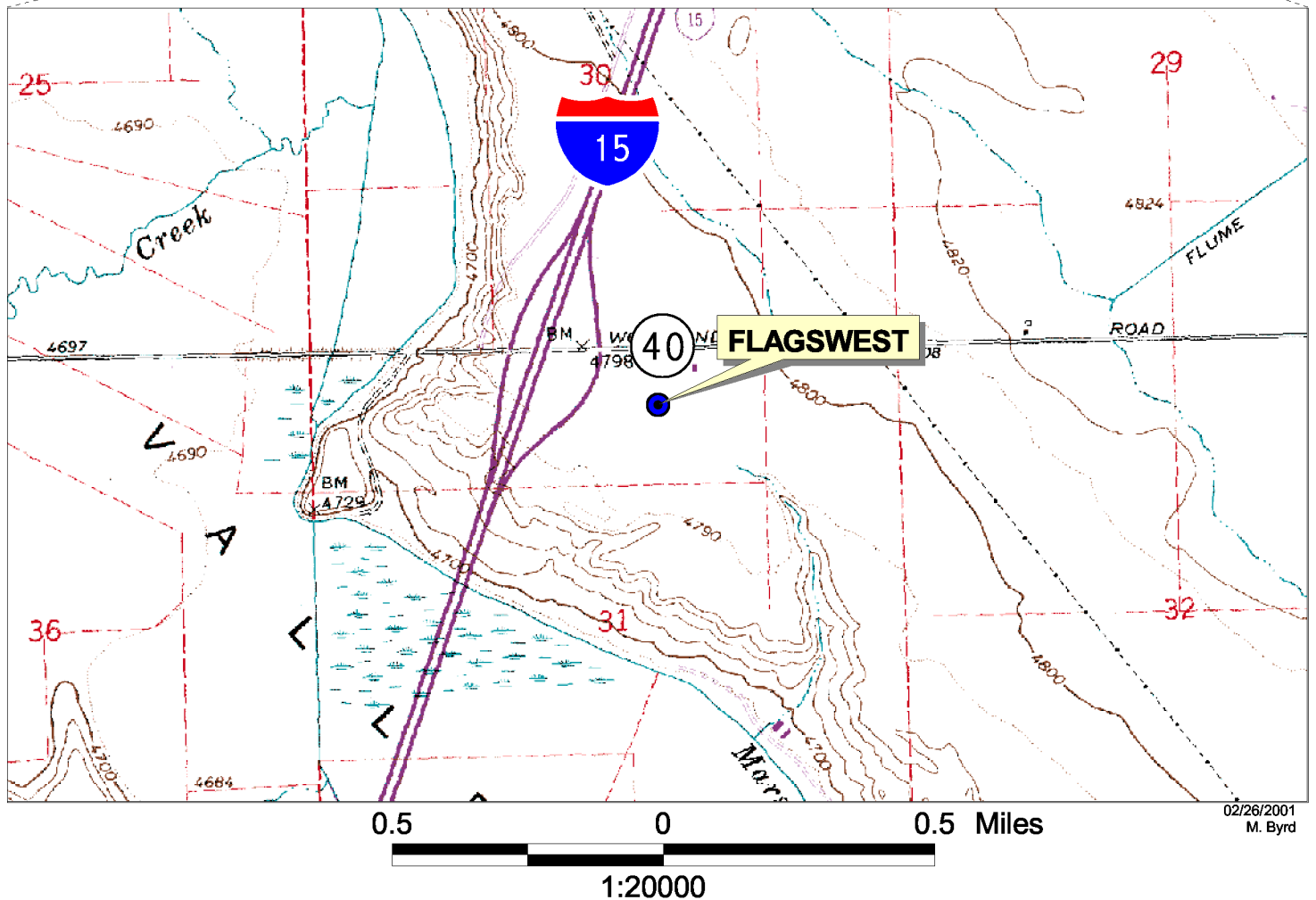
This report, *Source Water Assessment for the Flagswest (PWS # 6030016)* describes the public drinking water system, the associated potential contaminant sources located within a 1,000 foot boundary around the drinking water source, and the susceptibility (risk) that may be associated with any associated potential contaminants. This assessment should be used as a planning tool, taken into account with local knowledge and concerns, to develop and implement appropriate protection measures for this system. **The results should not be used as an absolute measure of risk and they should not be used to undermine public confidence in the Flagswest water system.**

The Flagswest drinking water system consists of one well located at the facility (Figure 1). At this time, there appears to be no primary water quality associated with the well source. The potential contaminant sources within the delineation capture zone include underground fuel storage tanks (Figure 2). The operator also reports that the motel and truckstop drain field and a burnpit (boxes only) are also located within the 1000-foot capture zone. Contaminants of concern are primarily business chemicals such as petroleum products and nitrates from the drainfields.

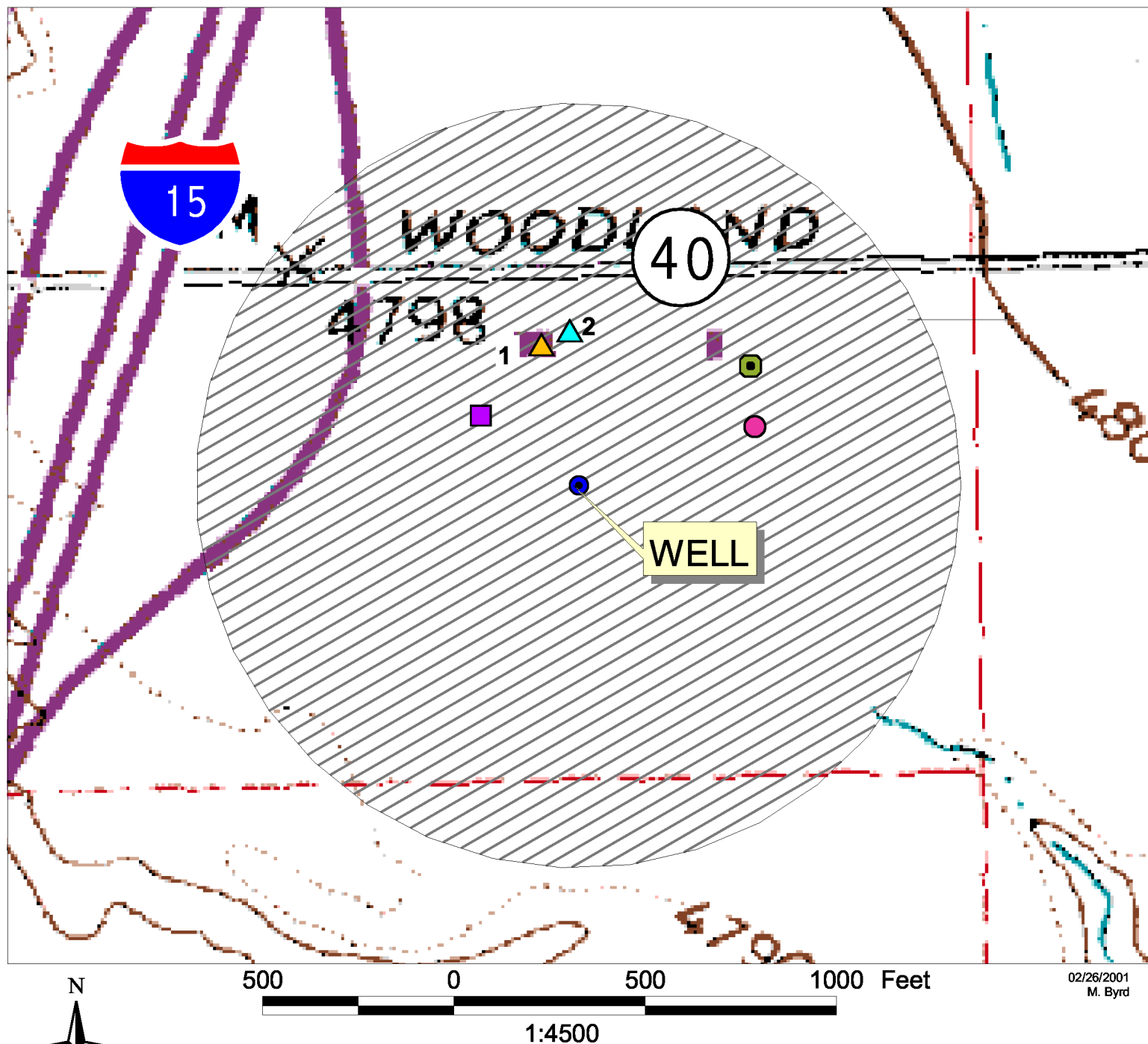
The susceptibility of the well to contamination was ranked as high, moderate, or low risk according to the following considerations: hydrologic characteristics, physical integrity of the well, land use characteristics, and potentially significant contaminant sources. The susceptibility rankings are specific to a particular potential contaminant or category of contaminants. Therefore, a high susceptibility rating relative to one potential contaminant does not mean that the water system is at the same risk for all other potential contaminants. The relative ranking that is derived for each well is a qualitative, screening-level step that, in many cases, uses generalized assumptions and best professional judgement.

Hydrologic sensitivity was rated moderate for the well. This is based upon moderate to well drained soil classes defined by the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) and the make up of the vadose zone (zone from land surface to the water table). Well construction directly affects the ability of the well to protect the aquifer from contaminants. Well construction was rated moderate for the well primarily due the well casing not extending into a low permeable geologic formation, an important aspect of proper well construction. The well is located outside the 100-year floodplain and protected from surface runoff. The final susceptibility ranking for the well is moderate for inorganic, volatile organic, and synthetic organic contaminants, and microbial contaminants. (Table 2). A copy of the susceptibility analysis for the Flagswest system along with a map showing any potential contaminant sources is included with this summary. Information regarding the potential contaminants within the 1,000-foot boundary have been summarized and included in Table 1.

A map of the State of Idaho showing county boundaries. Major cities are marked with red dots and labeled: COEUR D'ALENE, LEWISTON, BOISE, IDAHO FALLS, TWIN FALLS, and POCA TELLO. POCA TELLO is highlighted with a yellow circle and a blue dot. A compass rose is on the left, and the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality logo is on the right.



**Figure 2 - Flagswest Well Delineation Map and Potential Contaminant Sources**  
**PWS Number: 6030016**



02/26/2001  
M. Byrd

### LEGEND

- Wellhead
- UST Site
- Closed
- Open
- Zone 1B - 1000' Fixed Radius
- Earthen Burn Pit (boxes only)
- Motel Drain Field
- F.W. Truckstop Drain Field

Note: Refer to Potential Contaminant Inventory List for identification of Potential Contaminant Sources(s).

Restriction of Liability: Neither the State of Idaho nor the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, nor any of their employees make any warranty, express or implied, or assume any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness or usefulness of any information or data provided. Metadata is provided for all data sets, and no data should be used without first reading and understanding its limitations. The data could include technical inaccuracies or typographical errors. The Department of Environmental Quality may update, modify, or revise the data used at any time, without notice.



**Table 1. Flagswest Potential Contaminant Inventory**

Site #	Source Description	Source of Information	Potential Contaminants
1	UST site	Database Inventory	VOC, SOC
2	Former UST site	Database Inventory	VOC, SOC

UST = underground storage tank, VOC = volatile organic chemical, SOC = synthetic organic chemical,

**Table 2. Summary of Flagswest Susceptibility Evaluation**

	Susceptibility Scores <sup>1</sup>									
	Hydrologic Sensitivity	Contaminant Inventory				System Construction	Final Susceptibility Ranking			
Well		IOC	VOC	SOC	Microbials		IOC	VOC	SOC	Microbials
1	M	M	M	M	L	M	M	M	M	M

<sup>1</sup>H = High Susceptibility, M = Moderate Susceptibility, L = Low Susceptibility

IOC = inorganic chemical, VOC = volatile organic chemical, SOC = synthetic organic chemical

This assessment should be used as a basis for determining appropriate new protection measures or re-evaluating existing protection efforts. No matter what ranking a source receives, protection is always important. Whether the source is currently located in a “pristine” area or an area with numerous industrial and/or agricultural land uses, the way to ensure good water quality in the future is to act now to protect valuable water supply resources.

For the Flagswest, source water protection activities should focus on implementation of practices aimed at keeping the distribution system free of microbial contaminants. The system will want to consider using disinfection if persistent microbial problems ever arise. The water system should also consider developing a wellhead protection plan. Source water protection activities should be aimed at long-term management strategies even though these strategies may not yield results in the near term. For assistance in developing protection strategies please contact the Pocatello Regional Office of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality at (208) 236-6160.

## POTENTIAL CONTAMINANT INVENTORY LIST OF ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS

**AST (Aboveground Storage Tanks)** – Sites with aboveground storage tanks.

**Business Mailing List** – This list contains potential contaminant sites identified through a yellow pages database search of standard industry codes (SIC).

**CERCLIS** – This includes sites considered for listing under the **Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)**. CERCLA, more commonly known as ASuperfund, is designed to clean up hazardous waste sites that are on the national priority list (NPL).

**Cyanide Site** – DEQ permitted and known historical sites/facilities using cyanide.

**Dairy** – Sites included in the primary contaminant source inventory represent those facilities regulated by Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) and may range from a few head to several thousand head of milking cows.

**Deep Injection Well** – Injection wells regulated under the Idaho Department of Water Resources generally for the disposal of stormwater runoff or agricultural field drainage.

**Enhanced Inventory** – Enhanced inventory locations are potential contaminant source sites added by the water system. These can include new sites not captured during the primary contaminant inventory, or corrected locations for sites not properly located during the primary contaminant inventory. Enhanced inventory sites can also include miscellaneous sites added by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) during the primary contaminant inventory.

**Floodplain** – This is a coverage of the 100-year floodplains.

**Group 1 Sites** – These are sites that show elevated levels of contaminants and are not within the priority one areas.

**Inorganic Priority Area** – Priority one areas where greater than 25% of the wells/springs show constituents higher than primary standards or other health standards.

**Landfill** – Areas of open and closed municipal and non-municipal landfills.

**LUST (Leaking Underground Storage Tank)** – Potential contaminant source sites associated with leaking underground storage tanks as regulated under RCRA.

**Mines and Quarries** – Mines and quarries permitted through the Idaho Department of Lands.)

**Nitrate Priority Area** – Area where greater than 25% of wells/springs show nitrate values above 5mg/l.

**NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System)** – Sites with NPDES permits. The Clean Water Act requires that any discharge of a pollutant to waters of the United States from a point source must be authorized by an NPDES permit.

**Organic Priority Areas** – These are any areas where greater than 25 % of wells/springs show levels greater than 1% of the primary standard or other health standards.

**Recharge Point** – This includes active, proposed, and possible recharge sites on the Snake River Plain.

**RICRIS** – Site regulated under **Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA)**. RCRA is commonly associated with the cradle to grave management approach for generation, storage, and disposal of hazardous wastes.

**SARA Tier II (Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act Tier II Facilities)** – These sites store certain types and amounts of hazardous materials and must be identified under the Community Right to Know Act.

**Toxic Release Inventory (TRI)** – The toxic release inventory list was developed as part of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know (Community Right to Know) Act passed in 1986. The Community Right to Know Act requires the reporting of any release of a chemical found on the TRI list.

**UST (Underground Storage Tank)** – Potential contaminant source sites associated with underground storage tanks regulated as regulated under RCRA.

**Wastewater Land Applications Sites** – These are areas where the land application of municipal or industrial wastewater is permitted by IDEQ.

**Wellheads** – These are drinking water well locations regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act. They are not treated as potential contaminant sources.

**NOTE:** Many of the potential contaminant sources were located using a geocoding program where mailing addresses are used to locate a facility. Field verification of potential contaminant sources is an important element of an enhanced inventory

The final scores for the Flagswest susceptibility analysis were determined using the following formulas:

- 1) VOC/SOC/IOC Final Score = Hydrologic Sensitivity + System Construction + (Potential Contaminant/Land Use x 0.27)
- 2) Microbial Final Score = Hydrologic Sensitivity + System Construction + (Potential Contaminant/Land Use x 0.375)

Final Susceptibility Scoring:

- 0 - 5 Low Susceptibility
- 6 - 12 Moderate Susceptibility
- > 13 High Susceptibility

1. System Construction		SCORE			
Drill Date	6/4/93				
Driller Log Available	YES				
Sanitary Survey (if yes, indicate date of last survey)	YES	1997			
Well meets IDWR construction standards	NO	1			
Wellhead and surface seal maintained	YES	0			
Casing and annular seal extend to low permeability unit	NO	2			
Highest production 100 feet below static water level	NO	1			
Well located outside the 100 year flood plain	YES	0			
Total System Construction Score		4			
2. Hydrologic Sensitivity					
Soils are poorly to moderately drained	NO	2			
Vadose zone composed of gravel, fractured rock or unknown	NO	0			
Depth to first water > 300 feet	NO	1			
Aquitard present with > 50 feet cumulative thickness	YES	0			
Total Hydrologic Score		3			
3. Potential Contaminant / Land Use - ZONE 1A		IOC Score	VOC Score	SOC Score	Microbial Score
Land Use Zone 1A	IRRIGATED PASTURE	1	1	1	1
Farm chemical use high	NO	0	0	0	
IOC, VOC, SOC, or Microbial sources in Zone 1A	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Total Potential Contaminant Source/Land Use Score - Zone 1A		1	1	1	1
Potential Contaminant / Land Use - ZONE 1B					
Contaminant sources present (Number of Sources)	YES	0	2	2	0
(Score = # Sources X 2 ) 8 Points Maximum		0	4	4	0
Sources of Class II or III leacheable contaminants or	YES	4	2	0	
4 Points Maximum		4	2	0	
Zone 1B contains or intercepts a Group 1 Area	NO	0	0	0	0
Land use Zone 1B Greater Than 50% Irrigated Agricultural Land		4	4	4	4
Total Potential Contaminant Source / Land Use Score - Zone 1B		8	10	8	4
Cumulative Potential Contaminant / Land Use Score		9	11	9	5
4. Final Susceptibility Source Score		9	10	9	9
5. Final Well Ranking		Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate